

ABSTRACTS

Effect of Integrated Study Reading on Polytechnic Students' Success Mindset, Time Management and Academic Achievement

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Abstract

This study was conducted to make a case for the integration of study reading to students' daily academic and lifestyle schedules through regulated monitoring. Three null hypotheses were tested. 400 students from four departments in three faculties of a polytechnic were selected and randomly assigned to experimental and control groups of 200 each. Subjects were lectured on study reading skills and the importance of academic success mindset and time management but the experimental group was monitored and effectively guided to put the skills to use. Two instruments used were Effect of Integrated Study Reading Questionnaire (EISRQ) filled by experimental group before and after treatment and Test of Students' Achievement (TOSA I-IV) written by both groups after treatment. Results showed that experimental group achieved higher grades ($M=3.82$; $SD\ 1.10$) than control group ($M=2.74$; $SD\ 0.82$). The mean difference was statistically significant $t(398) = 11.11$, $p < 0.05$. There was a remarkable difference in students' time management practices after treatment. Post treatment mean score was higher ($M=2.59$; $SD=0.49$) than pre-treatment mean score ($M=1.80$; $SD=0.66$). The mean difference was statistically significant ($t(199) = 22.30$, $p < 0.05$). There was also a positive relationship between students' success mindset and time management ($r_{198} = 0.896$, $p < 0.05$). It was concluded that every student has the potential to be success-minded, less wasteful with time, and make high grades in examinations if closely monitored and supervised to practise study reading. It was recommended that necessary institutional arrangements should be made to orientate students on success mindset and time management, to prompt and closely monitor their study reading activities.

Key Words: Integrated Study Reading, study reading, academic achievement, success mindset, time management.

Women in the Power Structure of Selected African Indigenous Pentecostal Churches: Practices, Implications and a Brief Theological Appraisal

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Abstract

This study examined the presence of women in the power structure of some Indigenous Pentecostal churches. Data for the work were collected from primary and secondary sources. The primary source comprised interviews while the secondary data came from articles, magazines, books, and the Internet. After a brief survey, the research dealt critically and extensively with the practice of women in church power leadership among Indigenous Pentecostal churches in selected West African communities. The data gathered were subjected to socio-theological analysis. The analysis revealed four patterns. There were churches founded by men, the leadership of which their wives took-over after the husbands' death and there were churches founded and controlled by women who founded them. There were churches that limited the power of women in their leadership structure but compensated the women's husbands for their wives' contributions by promoting the husbands and, finally, there were churches jointly founded by couples but in which the wives were more prominent because of the women's charismata. Where women were "General Overseers", such women wielded great power.

Key words: Pentecostal churches; gender bias; power structure; family succession; theological appraisal.

Government Bureaucracy and the New Public Management in Nigeria: A Critical Analysis
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Abstract

The paper set out to establish the effect of New Public Management (NPM) on government bureaucracy with a view to identifying the positive or negative benefits of the new policy. Secondary data were collected from information already recorded and arranged in published and unpublished materials such as textbooks, newspapers, articles, publications and reports. The results showed that lack of efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability are responsible for the adoption of new public management, while innovation and efficiency were the primary reasons for NPM involvement in the social service delivery in Nigeria government bureaucracy; that using ideas from private sector had positive impact on the effective and efficient service delivery; that there was positive relationship between the NPM and public service delivery in Nigeria government; and that there were no significant challenges and problems in the adoption of new public management strategies. The study concluded that the relationship between the basic contexts of NPM as applied in practice to public sector reform in Nigeria, and discussed the impact stemming therefrom.

Key words: administration, development administration, bureaucracy, new public management

War Against corruption and the Political Will to Wage it: A Case Study of President Muhammadu Buhari's Two Years in Office.

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Abstract

The menace of corruption in Nigeria is systemic. No Nigerian with the least level of education can feign ignorance of what corruption connotes and how pervasive it is in the socio-political and economic milieu of the Nigerian state. It has practically stationed Nigeria's economy in the doldrums and seems irrecoverable. When Nigerian politicians promise to get rid of corruption and promote good governance in the manifestos of their political campaigns, it is a mere rhetoric, a handy campaign strategy to amass the thumb prints of prospective electorates at the poll. Nigerians had never read serious meaning to such promise as they did during the electoral process that brought in President Muhammadu Buhari. Nigerians so much reposed confidence in him such that thousands of kilometres trekking across some states of the federation was embarked upon by some individuals to jubilate Buhari's victory at the poll. It is believed that once 'corruption' is tackled, poverty, insecurity, and unemployment will, by default, be eradicated. Barely two years into office, no single ground-breaking corruption case has been prosecuted to a logical conclusion. This paper assessed the political will of President Muhammadu Buhari to fight corruption in Nigeria. It utilised the secondary source of data collection and adopted the framework of the Clashing Moral Values theory. The paper argues that corruption cannot be wiped out of Nigeria if corruption cases were selectively prosecuted. Hence, the paper recommended among others, an uncompromisingly dogged political will to fight this war in such a way that the theatre commander (the President) will truly "belong to everybody and to nobody".

Key words: corruption, political will, poverty, Nigeria's economy, good governance

Strategies for Effecting Change and Innovation in a Typical School Organisation

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Abstract

The school system, like any other human organisation cannot remain static in a globalised economy and technological development. This has, therefore made change and innovation inevitable phenomena in a modern society pervaded with new ideas. School organisations have some attributes

and abilities to stand the test of time and face the competitive challenges, among others. For these attributes to be enduring and lasting, there is the need to incorporate into the school system, change and innovation. This paper utilises a conceptual design model to discuss the some strategies and paradigms for effecting desired change and innovation in the school system. It identifies the variables that operate in the organisation, the possible potential sources of resistance to organisational change and innovation, the extent, the nature and process of innovation and steps and strategies that can be employed in virtually all effective change and innovation models. The cyclic nature of innovation and change is also presented in the model and how it could influence learning in the school.

Keywords: the school system, change and innovation, agents of change, strategies of change

Accommodationist Response: A Critique of Footwears in Costuming Recent Nigerian Ethnic Dances

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Abstract

Costumes are visual language a people use to express their cultural essences and identities. Specific dresses are expected to correspond to cultural details of the wearers; ditto costume used in playing roles in dances and acting. This paper aims at presenting the ways costumes are presented in dance performances on the Nigerian cultural stages. The main discourse is however on the fundamentality of costume in showing the ways of life of a people, which performance seeks to do in whatever form it has been fashioned. It raises questions about the necessity for the tangible cultural heritage of Nigeria in costuming the performances of Ondo, Imo and Nassarawa States' Arts Councils with a view to appraising them within an ensemble. The data collection is based on unstructured observation, photographs and secondary sources such books and relevant articles. The findings reveal the inappropriateness of footwear in the total costume ensemble of some of the State Arts Councils and in traditional dance performances in Nigeria in relation to the cultural messages they are supposed to present. It then concludes that the accommodationist response may need to be modified with the right choices of fabrics and designs in order to bring about correctness in the total outlook of costumes used for traditional performances, which are part of a people's legacy.

Key words: costumes, Nigerian dances, footwear.

Access to water supply in varied income residential areas in parts of Lagos metropolis, Nigeria

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Abstract

Access to potable water is vital for healthy living. The study examined household's access to water supply in varied income residential areas in parts of Lagos metropolis. Data employed for the study was sourced from the administration of the questionnaire using simple random sampling technique. The data collected were analyzed using descriptive, bivariate, multivariate statistical techniques and world health organization benchmark. The result showed that piped water connection, public standpipe and unprotected dug well predominate in the high, medium and low-income areas respectively. About 60.5% of the households had access to improved water while only 29.5% have access to safe water in the study area. The high-income zone recorded full access based on distance and time taken to collect water. The FA extracted three major components namely; water access, demographic and economic attributes accounting for 77.41% of the variance. The R square change of the linear regression was 0.259 with a significant contribution. The ANOVA model indicated three variables: main water source, income, and cost as the predictors and was significant at $p < .000$. The study revealed that access to safe water supply in the low-income area is poor. The study concluded that main water source, income, and cost are factors affecting access to water supply in the area. The study recommended an investment in safe water infrastructure within trek able distance with priority in low-income area for sustainable socio-environmental and healthy living.

Key words: Access, Lagos-Metropolis, residential types, regression analysis, water sources

A Linguistic Analysis of Online Newspaper Reports of the April 2015 South African Xenophobic Attacks

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Abstract

While the mass media plays a crucial role in the documentation of social realities, it has also been accused of agenda-setting. This study examined newspaper reports on the April 2015 South African xenophobic attacks. Contrastive in outlook, four debut reports on the violence – two from Nigeria and two from South Africa – were discussed. The selection of the online national daily newspapers was based on prestige, readership and accessibility. Employing Critical Discourse Analytical tools, attention was accorded to the linguistic portrayal of violence through the consideration of lexis, sentence structures and other foregrounded linguistic features. The counter-discursive strategies and ideologies behind linguistic constructions were identified. The analysis revealed that lexical categories frame and reflect the perspectives to the reportage of violence. Sentence types, particularly the complex sentences and passive sentences, symbolize a victim-aggressor relationship. Emotive language was employed to either emphasise or de-emphasise the xenophobic violence. Two dominant ideological motives were identified – Otherness/counter discourse and history. The study concluded that linguistic choices and structures are integral to newspaper reportage as they undertake ideological roles towards framing events and influencing their audience.

Key words: xenophobic attacks, ideology, Critical Discourse Analysis, news media, online news reports, violence

Effects of Modes of Computer Animation Instructional Packages on Students' Attitude to Biology in Secondary Schools in Osun State

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Abstract

This study examined the effects of modes of computer animation instructional packages on students' attitude to Biology in secondary schools in Osun State. The Study adopted a Pretest-Posttest Control Group, Quasi Experimental research design. Random sampling was used to select six (6) secondary schools while 100 senior secondary (SS II) students in six intact classes randomly assigned to Animation combined with Narration (A+N), Animation combined with narration and on- screen text (A+N+T) group and Control Group. One instrument, Students' Attitude to Biology Questionnaire (SABQ) was used in collecting data. Data were analyzed using Analysis of Covariance and Scheffe Post-hoc test at 0.05 level of significance. There exist a significant difference in the attitude of students exposed to the animated packages and those exposed to the conventional method. The results revealed that $F_c = 58.21$; $p < 0.05$ was significant. This is because the significance of $F = 0.000$ is less than the alpha level. The study therefore concluded that Animation combined with Narration, Animation combined with narration and on- screen text are significantly effective in enhancing students' attitude towards Biology.

Key words: animation combined with narration, animation combined with narration and on-screen text, attitude to biology

Macroeconomic Determinants of Current Account Balance in Nigeria

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Abstract

Using the saving-investment theory as a basis, this paper used the Statics Ordinary Least Squares to establish the magnitude of the selected macroeconomic variables via the classifications of the variable through domestic and external condition or economic environment. Both descriptive and econometric approaches were used to analyse the selected macroeconomic variables. Furthermore, the study also carried out the unit root test using Augmented Dickey Fuller unit root test, which shows that some

variables are I(1) and I(0).. In addition, the ARDL estimate was carried out since evidence from the literature reveals that the autoregressive distributed lag model (ARDL) is one of the major workhorses in dynamic single-equation regressions. The ARDL approach yields consistent estimates of the long-run coefficients that are asymptotically normal, irrespective of whether the underlying regressors are I(1) or I(0), (Pesaran and Shin, 1995). The study revealed that both the external and domestic macroeconomic factors constitutes to the current account balance in Nigeria, but the magnitude exhibited by the external economic environment on the current account balance is far larger than that of the domestic economic environment especially the degree of trade openness (TOPEN) that had the coefficient of 58.6, followed by external debt (EXTDEBT) with the coefficient of 6.04. Next is the real exchange rate (REER) with the coefficient of 0.06 and lastly, is the fiscal balance to GDP (FMGDP), with the coefficient of 0.05. The conclusion is that the current account balance in Nigeria has been driven by trade openness, external debt, real exchange rate and fiscal balances, which is consistent with the findings in earlier studies and, therefore, suggests that the government should ensure that policy that can enhance trade liberalisation and reduction in debt servicing should be put in place.

Key words: dynamics auto-regressive distributed lags, macroeconomic variables, current account balance

Information Needs of Library Staff and their Perception of Training Programmes of the Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago Iwoye, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study investigated the information needs and perception of training programmes of the Olabisi Onabanjo University library, Ago-Iwoye. Data collection was by a questionnaire, administrated by the researcher to sixty (66) staff and out of which fifty (50) of the questionnaires were returned and analysed using percentages frequency count for the above. The research revealed that the library personnel had different information needs in their day to day work in the library and that the selection of library staff for the training programmes had been fair enough for all the staff of various cadres. The study concluded that the success or failure of a library as a service organisation depends on the calibre of staff available and the qualifications acquired in terms of education and professional training Olabisi Onabanjo University has various manpower development programmes to enhance staff performance on the job.

Key words: information needs, library, training programmes, library staff